

THE HONORABLE JUDGE TANA LIN

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

SEAGEN INC.,

Petitioner,

v.

DAIICHI SANKYO CO., LTD.,

Respondent.

No. 2:22-cv-01613-TL

**DAIICHI SANKYO COMPANY, LIMITED'S
RESPONSE TO SEAGEN INC.'S MOTION TO
SEAL (1) MEMORANDUM I/S/O PETITION TO
VACATE ARBITRATION AWARD, AND
(2) EXHIBITS 1, 3-44, 46-50, AND 53-66 TO
THE DECLARATION OF MATTHEW CHIVVIS
I/S/O MEMORANDUM**

**NOTE ON MOTION CALENDAR:
DECEMBER 23, 2022**

1 **I. INTRODUCTION**

2 Daiichi Sankyo Company, Limited (“DSC”) hereby responds to Seagen Inc.’s
3 (“Seagen’s”) Motion to Seal (Dkt. 9).¹ Since Seagen filed its Motion to Seal, the Parties have
4 conferred regarding the materials subject to Seagen’s motion. The Parties have reached an
5 agreement with respect to (1) redactions to Seagen’s Memorandum and (2) Exhibits 5, 10, 11,
6 and 17 that could potentially be unsealed.² DSC believes that the Parties’ agreement effectuates
7 the goal of ensuring public access to the Court’s records while preserving the sensitive,
8 confidential information contained in the remaining exhibits that accompany Seagen’s
9 Memorandum.

10 With respect to the remaining exhibits that are the subject of Seagen’s Motion to Seal,
11 DSC believes that judicial efficiency would be best served by deferring a decision on whether to
12 maintain them under seal until this Court decides the merits of Seagen’s Petition. There is a
13 significant possibility that this Court will not even have to consider many of these exhibits in
14 resolving Seagen’s Petition. As DSC’s forthcoming opposition to Seagen’s Petition will
15 demonstrate, Seagen’s Petition is untimely because it was not served within the statutorily
16 required time. The Petition should be denied on that basis alone, without the need to address
17 Seagen’s vacatur arguments or to consider the accompanying exhibits. Even if this Court does
18 reach Seagen’s arguments, the Court may very well find it unnecessary to consider the vast
19

20 ¹ DSC appears for the limited purpose of responding to Seagen’s Petition to Vacate the Arbitration Award
21 (“Seagen’s Petition,” Dkt. 1), and the related memorandum that Seagen filed days later (“Seagen’s Memorandum,”
22 Dkt. 11), as well as to protect DSC’s proprietary and confidential information submitted by Seagen.

23 ² Exhibits 5, 10, 11, and 17 consist of three Arbitrator Orders and DSC’s request to file a dispositive motion in the
24 Arbitration. DSC believes these exhibits do not need to be maintained under seal, but suggests that the Court defer
25 the decision regarding sealing these exhibits until the Court decides the merits of Seagen’s Petition. This is because
review of these materials is not necessary to resolve Seagen’s Petition. *See infra* at 3-5.

1 majority of the 66 exhibits Seagen submitted. This is because Seagen's submitted exhibits
2 largely appear to be an impermissible attempt to have this Court overturn and disregard the
3 Arbitrator's factual findings. As courts in this District (and elsewhere within this Circuit) have
4 explained, when exhibits subject to a motion to seal are unnecessary to a court's merits decision,
5 those exhibits can remain sealed because they will not enhance public understanding of the
6 judicial process.

7 In any event, because Seagen's vacatur arguments are predicated on this Court
8 disregarding the Arbitrator's factual findings, this Court would be better able to evaluate the
9 sensitive and confidential nature of the exhibits in question once it has had the opportunity to
10 acquaint itself with the substance of the underlying confidential arbitration by considering
11 Seagen's vacatur arguments and DSC's forthcoming opposition to Seagen's Petition. If the
12 Court nevertheless wishes to decide the sealing issues now, the Parties agree that the Court
13 should maintain the majority of the exhibits under seal. Those exhibits contain DSC's
14 highly-confidential information regarding the development and design of DSC's proprietary
15 pharmaceutical technology in the area of antibody-drug conjugates ("ADCs"), disclosure of
16 which could cause undue prejudice and substantial irreparable harm to DSC. The nature of the
17 Parties' documents, which the Parties expressly designated as "Confidential" or "Highly
18 Confidential" in the Arbitration, and the limited amount of (and low public interest in) the
19 remaining non-confidential information would make redactions unduly burdensome and nearly
20 impracticable.

21 **II. LEGAL STANDARD**

22 "The federal common law right of access [to court records] is not absolute," and "can be
23 overcome by sufficiently important countervailing interests." *San Jose Mercury News, Inc. v.*

U.S. Dist. Ct. N. Dist. (San Jose), 187 F.3d 1096, 1102 (9th Cir. 1999) (citation omitted). The relevant interests include whether disclosure of the material could “release trade secrets” or be used as “sources of business information that might harm a litigant’s competitive standing.”

Nixon v. Warner Commc’ns., Inc., 435 U.S. 589, 598 (1978); see also LCR 5(g)(3)(B). As part of its docket-management authority, the Court has broad discretion to decide when to rule on a motion to seal. *Murray v. Laborers Union Local No. 324*, 55 F.3d 1445, 1452 (9th Cir. 1995).

III. ARGUMENT

A. This Court Should Defer the Determination of Whether the Exhibits Submitted with Seagen’s Memorandum Should Be Kept Under Seal Until It Has Decided the Merits of Seagen’s Petition

DSC respectfully requests that the Court exercise its discretion and defer whether to maintain under seal exhibits to Seagen’s Memorandum until the Court has decided the merits of Seagen’s Petition. Under the Court-approved schedule, Seagen’s Petition will be fully briefed by February 10, 2023, and is noted for the Court’s calendar for that day. Shortly after that date—which is only eight weeks away—the Court will likely know whether it will even need to consider most of the exhibits that Seagen has submitted.

DSC believes that the Court will not need to do so. *First*, as DSC will explain in its forthcoming opposition, Seagen’s Petition is incurably untimely. Seagen was required to serve its Petition on DSC by methods specifically prescribed under the Federal Arbitration Act (“the FAA”—or at least by methods authorized by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 4(h)(2) for service on non-resident foreign corporations—within three months of the Award’s filing or delivery (which was August 12, 2022). *See* 9 U.S.C. § 12; Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(h)(2). Seagen has done neither at all, let alone in a timely fashion. Instead, Seagen sent its Petition to DSC by facsimile and to its counsel of record in the Arbitration by fax and email (and not to a proper officer or

1 agent authorized to receive process) on November 10, 2022. Even misconstruing this fax and/or
2 email as an attempt at “alternative service” under Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(f)(3), prior Court approval
3 would have been required, *see Brockmeyer v. May*, 383 F.3d 798, 805-06 (9th Cir. 2004), which
4 Seagen did not seek. Because the FAA’s requirements for service of vacatur petitions are strictly
5 construed, *see, e.g., IKON Glob. Mkts. v. Appert*, No. C11-53RAJ, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS
6 155108, at *8 (W.D. Wash. July 28, 2011), Seagen’s Petition is untimely, and that defect cannot
7 be cured *nunc pro tunc*. This is one principal reason to defer the decision on whether to maintain
8 the submitted exhibits under seal until the Court determines whether consideration of that
9 material is even necessary.

10
11 *Second*, even if the Court reaches Seagen’s substantive arguments, the highly deferential
12 standard of review for arbitral awards should render it unnecessary to decide whether many of
13 Seagen’s exhibits should be kept under seal. Seagen submitted over 60 exhibits to shore up its
14 improper attempt to have this Court overturn and disregard the Arbitrator’s factual findings—an
15 effort foreclosed by Circuit precedent. *See Kyocera Corp. v. Prudential-Bach Trade Servs., Inc.*,
16 341 F.3d 987, 1002-03 (9th Cir. 2003) (*en banc*). As DSC will explain in its forthcoming
17 opposition to Seagen’s Petition, under the proper standard of review, this Court will not need to
18 even consider the vast majority of Seagen’s submitted exhibits.

19
20 This Court, as part of its broad discretion to manage its docket, can defer its decision on
21 Seagen’s Motion to Seal until later in the case, particularly because the delay will not be lengthy.
22 *See Global Indus. Inv. Ltd. v. 1955 Cap. Fund I GP LLC*, 2022 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 172676 (N.D.
23 Cal. Sep. 23, 2022) (delaying a decision on a motion to seal until after the issuance of a merits
24 decision on whether to confirm or vacate an arbitral award, based on the respondents’ request).
25

When documents subject to a motion to seal are unnecessary to a court's merits decision, those documents can remain sealed on the court's docket. *See, e.g., Bloom Energy Corp. v. Badger*, No. 21-cv-02154-PJH, 2021 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 170360, at *37 (N.D. Cal. Sept. 8, 2021) ("[T]he court does not cite and need not refer to . . . 13 documents [subject to a motion to seal] when reaching its decision on the [merits]. Given that, the court does not need to consider whether to seal them . . . These 13 documents will remain protected from public view."); *Edifecs, Inc. v. Tibco Software*, No. C10-330-RSM, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 166576, at *9 (W.D. Wash. Sept. 23, 2011) (finding the motion to seal moot because the court did not rely on the documents in question in reaching its decision on the merits and stating that "[b]ecause Plaintiff cannot withdraw the sealed documents, they shall remain sealed on the Court's docket."). This is because "the public interest in understanding the judicial process"—one of the factors in deciding whether to maintain court-filed documents under seal, *Hagestad v. Tragesser*, 49 F.3d 1430, 1434 (9th Cir. 1995) (internal quotation marks and citations omitted)—is not implicated when these documents formed no part of the judicial deliberative process. In this case, deferring consideration of whether to maintain Seagen's exhibits under seal may obviate the need to decide that question altogether, thereby conserving this Court's resources.

B. The Court Should Maintain Under Seal Exhibits Containing DSC-Designated Confidential Information

To the extent this Court decides to address the continued sealing of exhibits to Seagen's Memorandum now, it should maintain under seal the exhibits containing DSC confidential information (Exhibits 7, 9, 13, 22-26, 38, 41-44, 46-49, 53-59, and 65).³ There are "sufficiently

³ DSC understands that Seagen agrees to the sealing of FDA and development documents, lab notebooks, internal communications and a DSC scientist's deposition transcript, which includes Exhibits 38, 41-44, 47-48, 53-59, and 65.

1 important countervailing interests" to keep those exhibits sealed, *San Jose Mercury News*, 187
2 F.3d at 1102, because they contain confidential, proprietary business information regarding the
3 development and design of DSC's ADC technology.

4 **1. DSC's BLA and Development Documents (Exhibits 38, 41-44,
5 47-48, and 53-55) Should Remain Under Seal in their Entirety**

6 Compelling reasons exist to maintain DSC's Biologics License Application ("BLA")
7 documents, which were submitted to the FDA for approval of its ADCs, as well as its
8 development documents for those (and future) ADCs (Exhibits 38, 41-44, 47-48, and 53-55)
9 under seal in their entirety. DSC designated these documents as "Highly Confidential" in the
10 Arbitration because they contain confidential, proprietary business information regarding the
11 development and design of DSC's ADC technology, the disclosure of which would constitute
12 irreparable harm to DSC. Specifically, Exhibits 38, 47, and 48 discuss internal confidential
13 research detailing DSC's strategy for designing its ADC technology, including confidential
14 information that is actively being used for the development of future ADCs, including potential
15 antigen targets for future ADCs and the status of ADCs in DSC's pipeline. Exhibits 41-44 are
16 non-public BLA documents that contain DSC's proprietary trade-secret information.
17 Specifically, these exhibits depict and contain descriptions of DSC's proprietary ADC
18 manufacturing processes (e.g., reduction, conjugation, purification, and formulation) and go as
19 far as to describe the manufacturing steps, use flow diagrams/tables, and detail procedures for
20 each manufacturing step (e.g., thawing, reduction, conjugation, purification, pH and composition
21 adjustment, filling and freezing, and preparation of buffers). Exhibits 53-55 are non-public
22 laboratory notebooks of DSC scientists that detail synthetic methods for various DSC drug
23 linkers, buffer exchange procedures, and conjugation and purification methods. This information
24
25

1 also contains DSC's trade-secret and confidential intellectual property information that will
2 cause DSC irreparable harm if obtained by competitors.
3

4 The information contained within DSC's BLA and development documents (Exhibits 38,
5 41-44, 47-48, and 53-55) remains sensitive, and any disclosure would hurt DSC's current
6 business interests by giving its competitors access to its confidential product development
7 processes. The goal of preventing release of sensitive, confidential, or trade-secret information
8 justifies keeping these exhibits under seal. *See Nixon*, 435 U.S. at 598; *Hagestad*, 49 F.3d at
9 1434. Conversely, the public's interest in these documents is minimal (if any) because they will
10 either be (1) not germane to the Court's merits decision or, at most, (2) only tangentially related,
11 given the highly deferential standard of review that does not allow judicial reexamination of an
12 arbitrator's factual findings. Given that the information in DSC's BLA and development
13 documents is highly confidential, redacting those documents would not further the goal of public
14 access because (a) the extensive redactions necessary to protect DSC's sensitive information
15 would render those documents essentially indecipherable, and (b) the limited unredacted
16 information would not enhance public understanding of the judicial process.
17

18 **2. The Other Documents Containing DSC's Confidential
19 Information (Exhibits 7, 9, 13, 22-26, 46, 49, 56-59,
20 and 65) Should Also Remain Under Seal in their Entirety**

21 The other exhibits containing DSC-designated confidential information (Exhibits 7, 9, 13,
22 26, 46, 56-59, and 65) include DSC's Arbitration hearing briefs, a request to the Arbitrator to file
23 a dispositive motion, documents from the Parties' collaboration, and excerpts from the
24 deposition transcript of a DSC factual witness in a different court proceeding involving the
25 Parties. These documents should also remain under seal because they likewise contain DSC's
highly confidential business information, the disclosure of which could cause DSC competitive

1 harm. These exhibits should be maintained under seal in their entirety because (a) the limited
2 unredacted information would not enhance public understanding of the judicial process, and
3 (b) redacting them to protect DSC's highly confidential information would be unduly
4 burdensome. If the Court declines to maintain any of these documents under seal in their
5 entirety, DSC respectfully requests that it be allowed an opportunity to confer with Seagen and to
6 propose for the Court's consideration appropriate redactions that protect both Parties'
7 confidential information. DSC understands Seagen agrees with this approach.

8 Exhibits 7, 9, and 13 (designated as "Highly Confidential" in the Arbitration) consist of
9 DSC's Arbitration briefs, which quote and characterize DSC's confidential and highly
10 confidential information including, *inter alia*, the contents of DSC regulatory documents,
11 scientists' laboratory notebooks, internal correspondence regarding DSC's research, sensitive
12 financial information regarding DSC's investment in its ADC technology, and the amount of
13 damages and the royalty rates in dispute in the Arbitration. *See, e.g.*, Ex. 7 at 4-7; Ex. 9 at 26,
14 64-71; Ex. 13 at 52, 57. Disclosure of this highly confidential business and financial information
15 to competitors could harm DSC's business interests and competitive standing.

16 Exhibits 56-59 (designated as "Highly Confidential" in the Arbitration) contain internal
17 business communications from the period during DSC's collaboration with Seagen that could
18 reveal DSC's internal strategy for similar research collaborations. These exhibits should be
19 maintained under seal in their entirety, because redacting them to protect DSC's highly
20 confidential information would render them not useful to the public in understanding the judicial
21 process.

Exhibit 65 is an excerpt of the deposition transcript of a DSC scientist who testified as a factual witness in a different court proceeding involving the Parties, *Seagen Inc. v. Daiichi Sankyo Co.*, No. 2:20-CV-00337-JRG (E.D. Tex.). This deposition transcript (except for a small portion that has been made public) is marked “Highly Confidential” and consists of testimony detailing the scientist’s ADC synthesis work and the details of experiments contained within his DSC laboratory notebooks. *See, e.g.*, 266:18-20, 24-25; 267:3-5, 8; 268:2-24. The highly confidential portion of this exhibit contains DSC’s proprietary business information and its disclosure could similarly harm DSC’s business interests by making public internal research and development of DSC’s ADC technology.

Exhibits 22-26, 46, and 49 should also be kept under seal because they are confidential drafts of the Parties' Collaboration Agreement and accompanying emails regarding the contractual negotiations between Seagen and DSC. As Seagen indicated in its Motion to Seal (Dkt. 9 at 3), Exhibits 22-25 and 49 contain sensitive business information regarding the negotiated royalty and similar commercial terms of the Parties' partnership. Disclosure of these exhibits, as well as Exhibits 26 and 46 (emails exchanged between the Parties' representatives in the course of contract negotiations) would reveal DSC's commercial negotiating strategy to its competitors or its potential partners.

C. DSC Does Not Oppose Seagen's Request to Seal the Other Exhibits, and Compelling Reasons Support Sealing at Least Exhibits 1, 3, 6, 8, 12, 14-16, 18, 61, 63, and 66

Seagen requested to place Exhibits 1, 3, 6, 8, 12, 14-16, 18-25, 27-37, 39-40, 49-50, 60-64 and 66 under seal. *See* Dkt. 9 at 3. DSC does not oppose this request—but, as explained above, believes the Court should defer its decision until it decides the merits of Seagen’s Petition. Critically, in the Arbitration, the Parties expressly marked these documents

1 “Confidential” or “Highly Confidential.” These exhibits, therefore, should be maintained under
2 seal because they contain DSC’s confidential and highly confidential trade-secret, business, and
3 financial information, the disclosure of which would significantly harm DSC or place it at a
4 competitive disadvantage.⁴

5 As to the Collaboration Agreement (Ex. 1), DSC does not oppose Seagen’s request
6 (Dkt. 9 at 3) to keep it under seal. DSC notes, however, that portions of the Collaboration
7 Agreement have been made public through Seagen’s SEC filings on November 7, 2008. If the
8 Court determines that the entire Collaboration Agreement should not be sealed, DSC asks that
9 the Court permit sealing of the Collaboration Agreement’s provisions that are redacted in the
10 SEC filing. These provisions contain confidential, sensitive information regarding the Parties’
11 financial arrangement and their collaboration’s research plan.

13 Further, Exhibit 3 is Seagen’s June 24, 2020 Amended Arbitration Demand, which
14 describes and quotes DSC’s confidential information including, *inter alia*, the communications
15 and non-final drafts of the Collaboration Agreement. *See, e.g.*, Ex. 3, ¶¶ 30, 43. Exhibit 8 is the
16 report of Seagen’s expert George Gould, which characterizes DSC’s confidential information,
17 including, *inter alia*, confidential communications and non-final drafts exchanged between the
18 Parties in furtherance of negotiating an agreement. *See, e.g.*, Ex. 8, ¶¶ 80-82, 85-86, 95-96, 107.
19 Disclosure of this confidential business and financial information would harm DSC, particularly
20 with respect to any future research collaboration or licensing agreement negotiations.

23
24 ⁴ During the Parties’ meet and confer, Seagen indicated that redacted versions of Exhibits 7, 9, 12-16, and 66 could
25 be filed. As with the other exhibits containing DSC’s confidential information, if the Court declines to maintain any
of these exhibits under seal in their entirety, DSC respectfully requests that it be allowed an opportunity to confer
further with Seagen and to propose appropriate redactions. DSC does not believe Exhibits 19-21, 27-37, 39-40, 50,
60, 62, and 64 contain any DSC confidential information, but does not oppose Seagen’s request to seal.

1 Exhibits 6 and 18 consist of the reports of a Seagen expert witness, which describe DSC's
2 confidential and highly confidential information including, *inter alia*, the contents of DSC's
3 regulatory documents, scientists' laboratory notebooks, research documents evidencing DSC's
4 independent development of its ADC technology, as well as confidential communications
5 between the Parties in furtherance of negotiating an agreement. *See, e.g.*, Ex. 6, ¶¶ 56, 60, 73,
6 88, 93, 96-97, 100-03, 105-06, 114, 117; *id.* at Annexes B, D, E; Ex. 18, ¶¶ 3-20.

7 Exhibits 12, 14, 15, and 16 consist of Seagen's briefs in the Arbitration. These exhibits
8 describe DSC's confidential and highly confidential trade-secret, business, and commercial
9 information including, *inter alia*, confidential communications exchanged between the Parties in
10 furtherance of negotiating an agreement, scientists' laboratory notebooks, DSC's independent
11 development of its ADC technology, including pipeline products, and the amount of damages
12 and the royalty rates in dispute in the Arbitration. *See, e.g.*, Ex. 12 at 1, 7-14, 16, 34-35, 38-40,
13 43, 46-47, 50, 66-68; Ex. 14 at 13-16; Ex. 15 at 2-6, 8; Ex. 16 at 1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 18, 44-50.

15 Exhibits 61 and 63 consist of fact witness statements from Seagen's corporate employees
16 in the Arbitration. These exhibits characterize DSC's confidential information, including, *inter*
17 *alia*, confidential communications and non-final drafts exchanged between the Parties in
18 furtherance of negotiating an agreement. *See, e.g.*, Ex. 61, ¶¶ 9-12, 15-18; Ex. 63, ¶¶ 18-51.

20 Exhibit 66 consists of excerpts of transcripts from the Arbitration hearing, which
21 characterize DSC's confidential information, including, *inter alia*, internal communications from
22 the period during its collaboration with Seagen. *See, e.g.*, Ex. 66 at 1754:21-1755:6. Disclosure
23 of this information could disadvantage DSC in future agreement negotiations.

D. The Parties Jointly Propose Appropriate Redactions to Seagen's Memorandum

The Parties have discussed redactions to Seagen’s Memorandum, a proposed version of which is attached as Appendix A.⁵ While Seagen’s Memorandum includes a false, misleading narrative of the factual record in the Arbitration that the Arbitrator expressly rejected, DSC’s proposed redactions seek to safeguard the Parties’ sensitive proprietary information derived from confidential intellectual property development documents or internal business communications. If disclosed, this information would reveal DSC’s internal strategy to drug development. These redactions are limited and would not impede the public’s ability to follow Seagen’s arguments.

IV. CONCLUSION

For these reasons, DSC respectfully requests that the Court:

- (a) accept the filing of a public, redacted version of Seagen's Memorandum (consistent with Appendix A); and
- (b) (1) defer its decision with respect to the exhibits that are the subject of Seagen's Motion to Seal (Dkt. 9) until the Court has considered Seagen's Petition; or (2) in the alternative, maintain Exhibits 3, 6-9, 12-16, 18-44, 46-50, 53-66 to Seagen's Memorandum under seal in their entirety.

⁵ Seagen’s assertion that DSC “has not responded to Seagen’s request for a meet and confer” regarding its Motion to Seal (Dkt. 9 at 2-3) is misleading. Seagen contacted DSC with a request for a meet and confer on the evening of November 10, 2022—on the eve of a federal holiday, Veterans Day (which was November 11, 2022)—and then filed its Memorandum (along with 66 exhibits) the following business day, November 14, 2022. That effort falls short of the Court’s Standing Order, requiring at least three business days between an effort to meet and confer and the filing of a motion. Nor could Seagen have realistically expected that the Parties would reach agreement on the necessary redactions to over 60 exhibits containing confidential information over a holiday weekend, and especially where Respondent’s in-house representatives responsible for this matter reside in Japan. In any case, as discussed in this response, DSC has now met and conferred with Seagen.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on December 19, 2022, I caused the foregoing document to be electronically filed with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system, which will send notification of such filing to all counsel of record.

/s/ Jack M. Lovejoy